



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Vol. 119 (pp. 2, 3 and 4) a manuscript copy of the *Calendar* is meant, it would have been better to have referred to the printed volume relating to America and the West Indies, 1675-1676, with Addenda, in which these entries appear. According to the printed *Calendar* the letter of Emanuel Downing, to which reference is made on p. 2, was written December 12, 1633, and the arrival of the first ship with masts from New England was reported by him, not two years thereafter, but on the 23d of the following August. It would seem that either the expression "two hundred miles," on p. 11, is a misprint, or that an exclamation point should have been placed after it. It does not seem to me that, as stated, the opinion of the solicitor-general, referred to on p. 111, lacks clearness, for he properly distinguishes between the right of towns to trees which stood on land granted to them prior to 1691 and their right to them when on land bestowed after the charter of that year with its restrictive clause had been issued.

HERBERT L. OSGOOD.

John Adams, the Statesman of the American Revolution, with other Essays and Addresses, Historical and Literary. By MELLE CHAMBERLAIN, LL.D. (Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin and Co. 1898. Pp. vi, 476.)

PROFESSOR SEELEY, in 1871, by his *Roman Imperialism and other Lectures and Essays*, set a new fashion for men who have been in the habit of writing an occasional article or giving an occasional address. It has been not one of the least of his services to the literary world. It has led many a man, who would otherwise have left nothing with any character of permanence behind him, to group together in a single volume, without much regard to their coherence, ten or twelve detached contributions of real value to the cause of letters, which he may have made in a course of years, and which would otherwise be hopelessly buried in the transactions of learned societies, or the unsorted heaps of unbound magazines that crowd our library cupboards. Judge Chamberlain has done this, and if his paper written for the *Dartmouth College Monthly*, on "Landscape in Life and in Poetry," has no particular relation to "John Adams," it comes quite as close to him as in Seeley's volume the essay on "English in Schools" did to "Roman Imperialism."

Perhaps the most noteworthy part of the book under review lies in the positions which it advances as to the real key to American institutions. Judge Chamberlain does not look in dark chambers or medieval castles for it. American history is dealt with from the American standpoint. It is treated as a thing complete in itself, and having its real beginnings no farther back than the foundation of the first colonies. The author quotes Goldwin Smith's saying that the American Revolution was a misfortune to Americans because it cut them off from their history, but he does not accept it. Their history (p. 147) is to him their own history; and that of England before, let us say, the Elizabethan age throws little

more light upon it than that of France or of Rome. The only story to be told is one as to the development of thirteen states out of thirteen land companies (p. 150).

These views attracted the attention which their freshness so boldly challenged when the author first presented them to the American Historical Association at its Boston meeting in 1887. He advanced them as theses to be considered, rather than as results which he was absolutely committed to defend. The course of historical study in the years that have since passed cannot be said to have weakened their force. There has been no lack of minute investigation of obscure events and rude records of long past ages, but it has achieved little more than to make darkness visible. It is, as he says (p. 169), good work to which to put the graduate student in our universities, for it is the kind of research of which he is best capable. But after it has earned him his doctor's degree, its place is generally in the waste-basket. The deep and controlling influences that have shaped American life belong to modern times, and the important documents to be examined, before the first Virginia charter, are few and not difficult to comprehend from their own terms.

Judge Chamberlain brought from the bench a spirit of candid and impartial examination into the causes of things which gives weight to his opinions, and they are expressed in a style as clear as it is forcible. His strong native powers were quickened for just such work by the wide acquaintance with general literature which gave him his place at the head of the Boston Library, and there gained new breadth and solidity.

The head of a great library has one special qualification for good literary work. He comes in daily contact with many minds, of the living and the dead. A stream of books is passing before his eyes in a constant and ever-varying succession, at each of which he takes a rapid glance. A competent librarian must have the faculty of quick perception. If he can add to it, as Judge Chamberlain could, that of easy assimilation, the best thoughts and most epigrammatic sentences of one author after another marshal themselves almost insensibly in line with whatever train of thought he may himself be working out, and become part of his intellectual capital. These essays are not overloaded with quotations, but they are full of apt references to wise words of other men, woven in at the right point and in a natural and graceful way.

The references to authorities in the notes are also important, and direct attention to some of the latest publications. The letter, for instance, first published by Boutell in 1896, of Roger Sherman, written to William Samuel Johnson in 1768, and objecting strenuously to the appointment of an American bishop, is cited (p. 21) in the essay on "John Adams, the Statesman of the Revolution," as a new support to the proposition that ecclesiasticism was its cause. In the picture of Adams there is brought into the foreground that quality of imagination and prophetic forecast which lends a glow to so much that came from his ready pen. The author justly paints him (p. 72) as stirred from his youth with the "sublime intuition of nationality," and calls attention to the fact that

the Massachusetts Constitution, in drafting which he had so great a share, was the real prototype of that of the United States, and of those now in force in thirty-eight of our states (p. 87).

The essay on the "Authentication of the Declaration of Independence" is one of the first importance, and must be taken as the final word on the question whether any of the signers of the Declaration of Independence signed it on the Fourth of July.

If there is a single thought which stands out particularly in this volume as a challenge to criticism it is that the American became early differentiated from the Englishman by his associative spirit (p. 285). "To the typical Englishman the unit of force was the individual man: to the typical American, it was an organization." Did not our colonial charters plant the associative spirit here? Had we ever a local organization both as minute and as all-pervading as the Saxon tithings and hundreds? Was not the "General Association for King William," in 1696, with the millions of signatures upon its rolls, a genuine product of English character, and was it by his American travels that Cobden learned the need and the good of an "Anti-Corn Law League?"

SIMEON E. BALDWIN.

The Life and Correspondence of Rufus King, comprising his Letters, Private and Official, his Public Documents and his Speeches. Edited by his grandson, CHARLES R. KING. Volume V., 1807-1816. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1898. Pp. xv, 563.)

THE tone of this volume is not less pessimistic than the earlier ones, and to judge from King's correspondents, the condition of the country, which in 1801 they declared desperate, continued to degenerate, until it had passed beyond description, and the strongest adjectives and superlatives ceased to yield any satisfaction to the letter-writers. "In 1807," so one asserts, "neither learning, morals nor wisdom seem any longer to be regarded as subjects of popular esteem and favour," the people blindly showing "wilful, stupid confidence" in the President, lulled in "a sleep which really appears like the sleep of death." The letter-writers make very clear the causes and progress of the final breaking-down of the Federalist party. First and foremost it had become strongly unnational. "Our degraded country" is Gore's characterization; "We are not more virtuous than other states," King asserts, and he asks "Are Republics an inferior and debased species of government?" "The importance of America in the scales of Nations has been very much overrated—and when our national vanity is a little lowered, we shall certainly be a more estimable people," is John Trumbull's view, and he adds that America "must expiate her guilt by suffering;" "What is meant when we are told we must be Americans and support our government?" demands Troup. Yet when it came to intrigue and "dealing," the Federalists for the most part do not seem to have been above the very conduct which